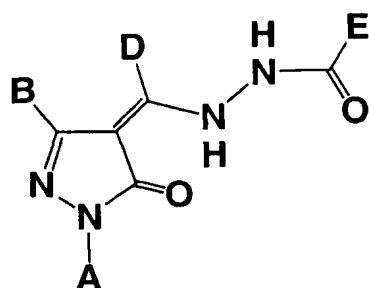


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-37 (Canceled).

Claim 38 (Currently Amended): A pyrazolone compound represented by the following formula (1):



Formula (1)

wherein

A is a C<sub>2-14</sub> aryl group,

wherein the C<sub>2-14</sub> aryl group may be optionally substituted with one or more C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, one or more C<sub>1-3</sub> alkyl groups substituted with one or more fluorine atoms, one or more halogen atoms, one or more nitro groups, one or more C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylcarbonyl groups, one or more hydroxyl groups or one or more amino groups, and

wherein the hydroxyl group and the amino group may be substituted with a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group or a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylcarbonyl group;

B is a hydrogen atom, a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group, a C<sub>1-3</sub> alkyl group substituted with one or more fluorine atoms or a C<sub>2-14</sub> aryl group;

D is a hydrogen atom, a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group or a C<sub>1-3</sub> alkyl group substituted with one or more fluorine atoms; and

E is a C<sub>2-14</sub> aryl group excluding a pyridyl group,

wherein the C<sub>2-14</sub> aryl group is optionally substituted with one or more hydroxyl groups, one or more nitro groups, one or more halogen atoms, one or more cyano groups, one or more C<sub>1-3</sub> alkyl groups substituted with one or more fluorine atoms, NG<sup>1</sup>G<sup>2</sup>,

wherein G<sup>1</sup> and G<sup>2</sup> are independently hydrogen atoms, formyl groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylcarbonyl groups, one or more carboxyl groups, one or more sulfonic acid groups, one or more phosphonic acid groups, ~~one or more carbamoyl groups, wherein the carbamoyl group may be substituted with a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group, one or more sulfamoyl groups, one or more hydroxycarbamoyl groups, one or more hydroxysulfamoyl groups,~~ one or more tetrazole groups, and one or more C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy carbonyl groups or X(CYZ)<sub>n</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>H,

wherein X is CH<sub>2</sub>, O, S or NG<sup>3</sup>,

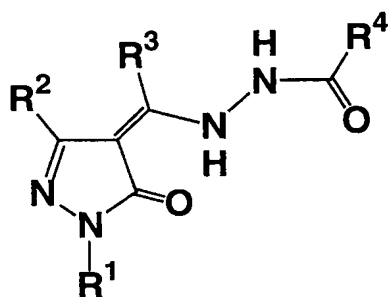
wherein G<sup>3</sup> is a hydrogen atom, a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group, a formyl group or a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylcarbonyl group,

wherein Y and Z are independently hydrogen atoms or C<sub>1-3</sub> alkyl groups, and n is 0, 1, 2 or 3, ~~and~~

~~wherein the sulfamoyl group may be substituted with a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group;~~

a tautomer, prodrug or pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the compound or a solvate thereof.

Claim 39 (Previously Presented): A pyrazolone compound represented by the following formula (2):



Formula (2)

wherein

R<sup>1</sup> is a C<sub>2-14</sub> aryl group,

wherein the C<sub>2-14</sub> aryl group may be optionally substituted with one or more C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, one or more C<sub>1-3</sub> alkyl groups substituted with one or more fluorine atoms, one or more halogen atoms, one or more nitro groups, one or more C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylcarbonyl groups, one or more hydroxyl groups or one or more amino groups, and

wherein the hydroxyl group and the amino group may be substituted with a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group or a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylcarbonyl group;

R<sup>2</sup> is a hydrogen atom, a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group, a C<sub>1-3</sub> alkyl group substituted with one or more fluorine atoms or a C<sub>2-14</sub> aryl group;

R<sup>3</sup> is a hydrogen atom, a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group or a C<sub>1-3</sub> alkyl group substituted with one or more fluorine atoms, and

R<sup>4</sup> is a C<sub>2-14</sub> aryl group excluding a pyridyl group,

wherein the C<sub>2-14</sub> aryl group is optionally substituted with one or more hydroxyl groups, one or more nitro groups or NR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, and

wherein R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> are independently hydrogen atoms, formyl groups, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylcarbonyl groups;

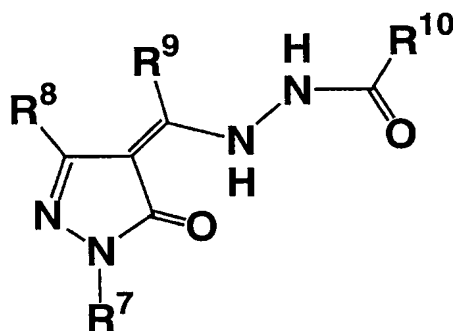
a tautomer prodrug or pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the compound or a solvate thereof.

Claim 40 (Previously Presented): The pyrazolone compound according to Claim 39, wherein  $R^4$  is a  $C_{2-14}$  aryl group substituted with one or more hydroxyl groups, a tautomer, prodrug or pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the compound or a solvate thereof.

Claim 41 (Previously Presented): The pyrazolone compound according to Claim 39, wherein  $R^4$  is a  $C_{2-14}$  aryl group substituted with  $NR^5R^6$  (wherein  $R^5$  and  $R^6$  are independently hydrogen atoms, formyl groups,  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl groups or  $C_{1-6}$  alkylcarbonyl groups), a tautomer, prodrug or pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the compound or a solvate thereof.

Claim 42 (Previously Presented): The pyrazolone compound according to Claim 39, wherein  $R^4$  is a  $C_{2-14}$  aryl group substituted with one or more nitro groups, a tautomer, prodrug or pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the compound or a solvate thereof.

Claim 43 (Currently Amended): A pyrazolone compound represented by the following formula (3):



Formula (3)

wherein

$R^7$  is a  $C_{2-14}$  aryl group,

wherein the  $C_{2-14}$  aryl group may be optionally substituted with one or more  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl groups, one or more  $C_{1-3}$  alkyl groups substituted with one or more fluorine atoms, one or more halogen atoms, one or more nitro groups, one or more  $C_{1-6}$  alkylcarbonyl groups, one or more hydroxyl groups or one or more amino groups, and

wherein the hydroxyl group and the amino group may be substituted with a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group or a  $C_{1-6}$  alkylcarbonyl group;

$R^8$  is a hydrogen atom, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group, a  $C_{1-3}$  alkyl group substituted with one or more fluorine atoms or a  $C_{2-14}$  aryl group;

$R^9$  is a hydrogen atom, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group or a  $C_{1-3}$  alkyl group substituted with one or more fluorine atoms, and

$R^{10}$  is a  $C_{2-14}$  aryl group excluding a pyridyl group,

wherein the  $C_{2-14}$  aryl group is optionally substituted with one or more carboxyl groups, one or more sulfonic acid groups, one or more phosphonic acid groups, ~~one or more carbamoyl groups, one or more sulfamoyl groups, one or more hydroxycarbamoyl groups, one or more hydroxysulfamoyl groups,~~ one or more tetrazole groups, one or more  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxycarbonyl groups or  $X(CYZ)_nCO_2H$ ,

wherein X is  $CH_2$ , O, S or  $NR^{11}$ ,

wherein  $R^{11}$  is a hydrogen atom, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group, a formyl group or a  $C_{1-6}$  alkylcarbonyl group, and

wherein Y and Z are independently hydrogen atoms or C<sub>1-3</sub> alkyl groups, and n is 0, 1, 2 or 3;

a tautomer, prodrug or pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the compound or a solvate thereof.

Claim 44 (Previously Presented): The pyrazolone compound according to Claim 43, wherein R<sup>10</sup> is a C<sub>2-14</sub> aryl group substituted with one or more carboxyl groups; a tautomer, prodrug or pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the compound, or a solvate thereof.

Claim 45 (Previously Presented): The pyrazolone compound according to Claim 43, wherein R<sup>10</sup> is a C<sub>2-14</sub> aryl group substituted with X(CYZ)<sub>n</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>H, wherein X is CH<sub>2</sub>, O, S or NR<sup>11</sup>; and R<sup>11</sup> is a hydrogen atom, a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group, a formyl group or a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylcarbonyl group, wherein Y and Z are independently hydrogen atoms or C<sub>1-3</sub> alkyl groups, and n is 0, 1, 2 or 3; a tautomer, prodrug or pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the compound or a solvate thereof.

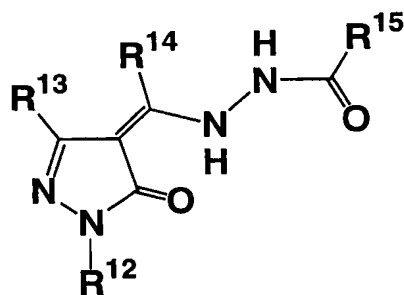
Claim 46 (Previously Presented): The pyrazolone compound according to Claim 43, wherein R<sup>10</sup> is a C<sub>2-14</sub> aryl group substituted with one or more sulfonic acid groups; a tautomer, prodrug or pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the compound or a solvate thereof.

Claim 47 (Previously Presented): The pyrazolone compound according to Claim 43, wherein R<sup>10</sup> is a C<sub>2-14</sub> aryl group substituted with one or more phosphonic acid groups; a tautomer, prodrug or pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the compound or a solvate thereof.

Claim 48 (Previously Presented): The pyrazolone compound according to Claim 43, wherein R<sup>10</sup> is a C<sub>2-14</sub> aryl group substituted with one or more tetrazole groups; a tautomer, prodrug or pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the compound or a solvate thereof.

Claims 49 - 50 (Canceled):

Claim 51 (Currently Amended): A pyrazolone compound represented by the following formula (4):



Formula (4)

wherein

R<sup>12</sup> is a C<sub>2-14</sub> aryl group,

wherein the C<sub>2-14</sub> aryl group may be optionally substituted with one or more C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl groups, one or more C<sub>1-3</sub> alkyl groups substituted with one or more fluorine atoms, one or more halogen atoms, one or more nitro groups, one or more C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylcarbonyl groups, one or more hydroxyl groups or one or more amino groups, and

wherein the hydroxyl group and the amino group may be substituted with a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group or a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylcarbonyl group;

R<sup>13</sup> is a hydrogen atom, a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group, a C<sub>1-3</sub> alkyl group substituted with one or more fluorine atoms or a C<sub>2-14</sub> aryl group;

$R^{14}$  is a hydrogen atom, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group or a  $C_{1-3}$  alkyl group substituted with one or more fluorine atoms, and

$R^{15}$  is a  $C_{2-14}$  aryl group excluding a pyridyl group,

wherein the  $C_{2-14}$  aryl group is substituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of a hydroxyl group, an amino group, a nitro group, a halogen atom, a cyano group, a  $C_{1-3}$  alkyl group substituted with one or more fluorine atoms, ~~a carbamoyl group and a sulfamoyl group, wherein the carbamoyl group and the sulfamoyl group may be substituted with a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group, and with a substituent selected from the group consisting of a carboxyl group, a sulfonic acid group, a phosphonic acid group, a carbamoyl group, a sulfamoyl group, a hydroxycarbamoyl group, a hydroxysulfamoyl group, a tetrazole group, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxycarbonyl group and  $X(CYZ)_nCO_2H$ ,~~

wherein X is  $CH_2$ , O, S or  $NR^{16}$ ,

wherein  $R^{16}$  is a hydrogen atom, a  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl group, a formyl group or a  $C_{1-6}$  alkylcarbonyl group, and

wherein Y and Z are independently hydrogen atoms or  $C_{1-3}$  alkyl groups, and n is 0, 1, 2 or 3;

a tautomer, prodrug or pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the compound or a solvate thereof.

Claim 52 (Previously Presented): The pyrazolone compound according to Claim 51, wherein  $R^{15}$  is a  $C_{2-14}$  aryl group substituted with a hydroxyl group and a carboxyl group; a tautomer, prodrug or pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the compound or a solvate thereof.



Claim 53 (Previously Presented): The pyrazolone compound according to Claim 51, wherein R<sup>15</sup> is a C<sub>2-14</sub> aryl group substituted with an amino group and a carboxyl group; a tautomer, a prodrug or pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the compound or a solvate thereof.

Claim 54 (Currently Amended): The pyrazolone compound according to Claim 51, wherein R<sup>15</sup> is a C<sub>2-14</sub> aryl group substituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of a nitro group, a halogen atom, a cyano group, a C<sub>1-3</sub> alkyl group substituted with one or more fluorine atoms, ~~a carbamoyl group and a sulfamoyl group, wherein the carbamoyl group and the sulfamoyl group may be substituted with a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group, and with a carboxyl group~~; a tautomer, prodrug or pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the compound or a solvate thereof.

Claim 55 (Previously Presented): A thrombopoietin receptor activator comprising the pyrazolone compound according to Claim 38.

Claim 56 (Previously Presented): A thrombopoietin receptor activator comprising the pyrazolone compound according to Claim 39.

Claim 57 (Previously Presented): A thrombopoietin receptor activator comprising the pyrazolone compound according to Claim 40.

Claim 58 (Previously Presented): A thrombopoietin receptor activator comprising the pyrazolone compound according to Claim 41.

Claim 59 (Previously Presented): A thrombopoietin receptor activator comprising the pyrazolone compound according to Claim 42.

Claim 60 (Previously Presented): A thrombopoietin receptor activator comprising the pyrazolone compound according to Claim 43.

Claim 61 (Previously Presented): A thrombopoietin receptor activator comprising the pyrazolone compound according to Claim 44.

Claim 62 (Previously Presented): A thrombopoietin receptor activator comprising the pyrazolone compound according to Claim 45.

Claim 63 (Previously Presented): A thrombopoietin receptor activator comprising the pyrazolone compound according to Claim 46.

Claim 64 (Previously Presented): A thrombopoietin receptor activator comprising the pyrazolone compound according to Claim 47.

Claim 65 (Previously Presented): A thrombopoietin receptor activator comprising the pyrazolone compound according to Claim 48.

Claims 66 - 67 (Canceled):

Claim 68 (Previously Presented): A thrombopoietin receptor activator comprising the pyrazolone compound according to Claim 51.

Claim 69 (Previously Presented): A thrombopoietin receptor activator comprising the pyrazolone compound according to Claim 52.

Claim 70 (Previously Presented): A thrombopoietin receptor activator comprising the pyrazolone compound according to Claim 53.

Claim 71 (Previously Presented): A thrombopoietin receptor activator comprising the pyrazolone compound according to Claim 54.

Claim 72 (Previously Presented): A pharmaceutical preparation, comprising the thrombopoietin receptor activator according to Claim 55 and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable additive selected from the group consisting of an excipient, a lubricant, a binder, a disintegrant, a humectant, a plasticizer, and a coating agent.

Claim 73 (Previously Presented): A platelet increasing agent comprising the thrombopoietin receptor activator according to Claim 55, as an active ingredient; a tautomer, prodrug or pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the activator or a solvate thereof.

Claim 74 (Previously Presented): A medicament comprising at least one pyrazolone compound of formula (1) according to Claim 38.